

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
KIGER TELEPHONE & TELEPHONY, LLC FOR)
A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)
INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA)**

**ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY

TC02-026**

On March 21, 2002, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, received an application for a certificate of authority from Kiger Telephone & Telephony, LLC (Kiger).

Kiger proposes to offer interexchange services, including 1+ and 101XXXX outbound dialing, 800/888 toll-free inbound dialing, directory assistance, data services and travel card service throughout South Dakota. A proposed tariff was filed by Kiger. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On March 28, 2002, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 12, 2002, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its April 17, 2002, meeting, the Commission considered Kiger's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Kiger not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that Kiger has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Kiger has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. The Commission approves Kiger's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Kiger not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Kiger's application for a certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services is hereby granted, effective May 20, 2002, subject to the condition that Kiger not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Kiger shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 19th day of April, 2002.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: _____

Date: _____

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner